(a) whether there is an urgent need to strengthen the Fishery Co-operatives in order to promote fishing in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by National Co-operative Development Corporation and Central Board for Fisheries to promote Co-operative fishery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) started promoting fishery cooperatives since 1974. NCDC has developed Specific patterns of assistance for promoting various activities of fisherires cocperatives (the quantum of which ranges from 75% to 100% for different activities.) It also provides funds to State Governments at concessional rates (12% in cooperatively underdeveloped and least developed States/ Union Territories and 12.5% in the cooperatively developed states), helps formulation of proposals for individual societies as well as integrated fisheries development projects covering various districts and arrange funds from international agencies like EEC, World Bank etc. for promoting fisheries cooperatives in the country. NCDC provides assistance to fisheries cooperatives, amongst others, for the following purposes:

1. Purchase of operational inputs such as fishing boats, nets and engines.

2. Creation of infrastructural facilities for marketing (transport vehicles, cold storages, retail outlets etc.)

3. Establishment of processing units, including ice plants, cold storages etc.

4. Development of Inland Fisheries, seed farms, hatcheries etc.

5. Preparation of feasibility reports.

6. Appointment of Experts under Technical & Promotional Cell Scheme.

7. Integrated Fisheries Projects (Marine, Inlands & Brackishwater). Up to 31.3.92, NCDC has sanctioned an assistance of Rs. 174.790 crores and released Rs. 70.643 crores for development of fisheries cooperatives in various states and Union Territories.

LPG Cylinder Plans

6799. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up some LPG cylinder manufacturing plants during the Eighth Five Plan period;

(b) if so, the locations where these plants are proposed to be set up; and

(c) the target set for manufacturing LPG cylinders during the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLIEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No targets have been set.

[*Translation*]

Entry of Multi-national Companies in Dairy Industries

6800. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: